

Serial No.: 09/849,229

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T.M.



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:

Docket No. PO239/US/SH

Sung Rong Jo

Serial No. 09/849,229

Group Art Unit: 3683

Filed: May 7, 2001

Examiner: Burch, Melody M

For: **GAS OPENING/CLOSING PIN**

Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

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Sir:

In Response to the Office Action dated June 4, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1 and 3 as follows. A clean copy of claims 1 and 3 is provided below. A marked-up copy of the amended claims 1 and 3 is attached hereto in the separate sheet, entitled "Marked-Up Copy of Claims."

1. (Amended) A gas opening/closing pin which opens and closes a gas inlet and outlet formed in a pipe holder which seals one end portion of a cylinder and moves the position of a piston in the cylinder, wherein at least one recess which opens the gas inlet and outlet is formed on the outer peripheral surface of the central portion of the gas opening/closing pin and an integrally formed two stepped diameter reducing portion formed at an upper end of the opening/closing pin.

3. (Amended) A gas opening/closing pin according to claim [2] 10, wherein the diameter reducing portion has at least one step.